

2024

Government Investigations & Litigation

Attorney Team

CO-LEADS AND FEATURED TEAM MEMBERS**Bill Corrigan, *Managing Partner – St. Louis***

St. Louis | 314.690.0237 | bcorrigan@shb.com

Missouri Deputy Attorney General | Before joining Shook, Bill was appointed Deputy Attorney General for the state of Missouri. As Deputy Attorney General, he served either as lead trial counsel or an advisor on high-profile cases that garnered statewide and national media attention. In addition, he supervised nearly 300 attorneys and staff in five offices. Preceding his AG service, Bill served as a judge for the 21st Judicial Circuit (St Louis County), where he tried many civil and criminal jury trials, handling a docket of approximately 220 criminal cases and 460 civil cases. He was also a civil trial lawyer for an Am Law 200 firm, where he tried many jury trials in a number of states

Bill's full bio is available [here](#).

**Patrick Oot, *Partner***

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U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission | Patrick's courtroom credibility is built upon his experience as senior counsel in the SEC's Office of the General Counsel and work as director of electronic discovery and senior litigation counsel at Verizon. He has testified on behalf of both organizations in federal litigation and has testified and commented to the federal Judicial Conference's Advisory Committee on Civil Rules and Committee on Evidence Rules advocating Federal Rules of Evidence changes, including testimony in which he presented his position on proposed Federal Rule of Evidence 502. The committee included language incorporating his suggestions in its draft to the Judicial Conference.

Patrick's full bio is available [here](#).



Phil Goldberg, *Managing Partner – Washington, D.C.*

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Congressional Aide | Before joining Shook, Phil spent eight years as an aide to three Democratic members of Congress and three years as a vice president of litigation communications for two leading public relations firms. As co-chair of the firm's Public Policy Group, Phil counsels businesses and their trade associations on some of the most cutting-edge liability issues of the day. Our Public Policy Group testifies and prepares clients for testimonies in Congress and state legislatures, messages legal issues for key stakeholders, including elected officials and government regulators, and works with trade associations to provide industry support against novel or political litigations.

Phil's full bio is available [here](#).



John Lewis, Jr., *Managing Partner-Houston*

Houston & Atlanta | 713.546.5620 | jolewis@shb.com

Investigations | Before joining Shook, Lewis held increasing roles of responsibility for The Coca-Cola Company, including as Coca-Cola's chief litigation counsel where he lead teams in shareholder, securities and related governance litigation and investigations. During the first joint DOJ/SEC investigation into its public filings, John led board-directed, Sarbanes-Oxley/Dodd Frank whistleblower investigations, collaborating with senior management, insurance carriers and media colleagues on legal risk management strategy. John also served as Coca-Cola's first Global Anti-Bribery Counsel, responsible for the company's compliance with FCPA, the UK Bribery Act, U.S. trade sanctions compliance and similar anti-corruption laws worldwide, as well as the company's Global Chief Diversity Officer. In addition to his business litigation practice, John currently leads the firm's Corporate DEI Consulting, Compliance and Disputes Practice (CCDP) Group and is an alum of the U.S. DOJ's Honors program.

John's full bio is available [here](#).

**Robert J. McCully, Partner**

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U.S. Air Force Judge Advocate General's Corps | Rob has a wide variety of trial and litigation experience, which includes practicing as a judge advocate in the U.S. Air Force (criminal prosecution and defense). He has represented companies in all aspects of responding to administrative, civil and criminal investigations by federal and state governments, as well as representation of companies in connection with congressional inquiries and investigations.

Robert's full bio is available [here](#).

**Christopher R. Wray, Partner**

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Missouri Attorney General's Office | Prior to joining the firm, Chris served as the chief of staff and deputy solicitor general in the Missouri Attorney General's Office. During his time in public service, Chris won several high-profile appeals before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit, the Supreme Court of Missouri and the Missouri Court of Appeals.

Chris oversaw all operations of the Attorney General's Office, supervising more than 300 attorneys and staff. He developed significant experience in constitutional law, administrative law, national amicus practice and governmental investigations. Before joining the attorney general's office, he served as Missouri's deputy state treasurer, where he managed the state's \$4 billion portfolio and its banking and unclaimed property operations. Before law school, Chris was an auditor at a Big 4 accounting firm in Kansas City and St. Louis. He is a certified public accountant, and has also taught forensic investigations at the college and graduate school level.

Christopher's full bio is available [here](#).

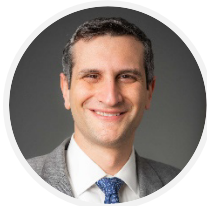
**Michael A. Zito, Partner**

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Federal Trade Commission & Missouri Attorney General's Office | Formerly a trial attorney at the Federal Trade Commission, Mike prosecuted violations of the Federal Trade Commission Act, such as unfair methods of competition, monopolization and attempted monopolization matters. He has significant experience in cases involving claims of anticompetitive behavior in the enforcement of intellectual property rights.

Mike worked in the only group at the Federal Trade Commission with responsibility for civil non-merger enforcement and is well versed in the federal agency considerations applied to governmental investigations and enforcement actions. Prior to the Federal Trade Commission, Mike was an Assistant Attorney General at the Missouri Attorney General's Office where he developed extensive litigation, trial and appellate experience as lead counsel in over 30 trials, hearings and appellate arguments, several involving highly-publicized litigation. Mike served as counsel to Missouri elected officials and state agencies, including the Secretary of State, the Supervisor of Liquor Control and the Real Estate Commission. Mike also managed a consumer fraud unit and reported directly to the Attorney General on consumer protection policy, investigations and enforcement.

Michael's full bio is available [here](#).



Elliott M. Davis, *Senior Counsel*

New York | 212.779.6109 | edavis@shb.com

U.S. Department of Justice | Before joining Shook, Elliott sharpened his legal strategy, briefing and oral-argument skills during his nearly seven-year tenure with the United States Department of Justice. Elliott held a variety of roles at DOJ, including a year-long assignment as the principal deputy to the Assistant Attorney General for the Civil Rights Division.

In his most recent role at the Justice Department, Elliott defended the federal government from constitutional and statutory challenges to a number of executive-branch actions, including several attacks on the implementation of the 2020 decennial census—two of which were ultimately reviewed by the U.S. Supreme Court and decided in favor of the government. Earlier in his DOJ career, he successfully defended the federal government in a number of high-profile tort cases relating to torture at Abu Ghraib prison, the Benghazi attack, and corruption at the FBI's Boston field office, among other matters. Among other honors, Elliott has received the Attorney General's Award for Distinguished Service, the Justice Department's second-highest award for employee performance.

Elliott's full bio is available [here](#).

**Jeff P. Johnson, Senior Counsel**

St. Louis | 314.690.0240 | jjjohnson@shb.com

Missouri Attorney General's Office | Before joining Shook, Jeff served as a Deputy Solicitor General in the Office of the Attorney General of Missouri. Under the Missouri Attorney General's enforcement authority, he led investigations into 501(c)(3) organizations and political subdivisions, and he participated in multistate investigations into banking and financial institutions. He provided strategic counsel to other civil investigations handled by the Missouri Attorney General. These investigations spanned consumer protection, unfair and deceptive trade practices, and antitrust statutory schemes. He represented state agencies and officers in appellate and trial courts, advised state agencies on sensitive matters, and defended the constitutionality of Missouri statutes. Additionally, Jeff authored several amicus briefs for multi-state coalitions, crafted impact litigation on federalism and administrative law issues.

Jeff's full bio is available [here](#).

EXTENDED TEAM: GOVERNMENT EXPERIENCE**Matthew D. Bernstein, Partner**

Miami | 305.755.8941 | mbernstein@shb.com

U.S. Army Judge Advocate General's Corps | Before joining Shook, Matt served six years on active duty in the U.S. Army Judge Advocate General's Corps, focusing on both trial and appellate litigation, internal investigations and client counseling. Matt represented the United States as lead trial counsel in many criminal trials, and thus, has substantial experience in government investigations and trial strategy. Matt is also uniquely qualified in this practice area because he holds an active Top-Secret/Sensitive Compartmented Information security clearance.

Matthew's full bio is available [here](#).

**Ryan Sandrock, Co-Chair, Antitrust**

San Francisco, Washington, D.C. | 415.544.1944 | rsandrock@shb.com

U.S. Department of Justice | Ryan previously served at the Antitrust Division of the Department of Justice, working as a Digital Markets Trial Attorney. Ryan's DOJ work included the landmark United States v. Google case, merger litigation, tech investigations, price-fixing investigations, and coordination with state and international enforcers.

Ryan's full bio is available [here](#).

**William E. Vita, Partner**

New York | 212.779.6103 | wvita@shb.com

Brooklyn District Attorney's Office | Bill developed trial and advocacy skills right out of law school as an Assistant District Attorney in Kings County (Brooklyn), New York. He tried numerous felony jury cases and also served in the Investigations Bureau, where he worked with NYPD detectives on homicide and armed robbery cases. He went on to work in the elite Rackets Bureau, which targeted organized crime. Bill also spent two years building cases against active crime families by obtaining eavesdropping warrants and working with confidential informants. His investigation of a complex insurance fraud matter resulted in the first indictment in New York history under the Organized Crime Control Act, which is equivalent to the Federal RICO Act. The Rackets Bureau worked in conjunction with federal agencies and prosecutors. More recently, Bill was lead counsel on a Coast Guard investigation and also was lead investigator on a C suite malfeasance claim at a national non-profit corporation.

Bill's full bio is available [here](#).

**Frederick S. Rudesheim, Senior Counsel**

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U.S. Army Judge Advocate General's (JAG) Corps | Before joining Shook, Fred served on active duty in the United States Army Judge Advocate General's (JAG) Corps. As a judge advocate, Fred served as a federal prosecutor, deputy general counsel, and civil litigation attorney. As a prosecutor, Fred served as lead counsel in seventeen felony trials. As a deputy general counsel, he successfully led legal teams domestically and abroad in matters ranging from administrative hearings and ethics issues to internal investigations and criminal prosecutions. As a civil litigator for the Army,

Fred defended the Army and its senior leaders in more than 50 lawsuits in federal district and appellate courts across the United States.

Fred's full bio is available [here](#).



Ara K. Ayvazian, Associate

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Bronx County District Attorney's Office | Ara was a prosecutor at the Bronx County District Attorney's Office. As part of his trial experience, Ara conducted jury and bench trials in New York State Supreme Court and New York State Criminal Court, including approximately 14 trials and 30 evidentiary hearings as first chair. In addition to trials, Ara presented more than 100 felony cases to grand juries. He then went on to be assistant corporate counsel in the Office of the Corporation Counsel of the New York City Law Department where he defended tort liability claims brought against the City of New York from case inception through trial. He also investigated allegations against the City to determine appropriate defense strategy, evaluated liability for settlement, drafted substantive and dispositive motions, and prepared cases for trial.

Ara's full bio is available [here](#).



Josh Hansen, Associate

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Privacy Investigations | Josh's practice focuses on privacy compliance and incident response. Josh has managed breaches involving notifications to individuals across the United States and often leads the response to state and federal regulators' investigations. He works with clients in different industries, but he has specialized knowledge of the healthcare space due to his time in-house with DaVita's privacy team. Prior to joining Shook, Josh also worked for Vanda Pharmaceuticals, clerked at the United States Court of Federal Claims, and worked a year for the United States Attorney's Office for the District of Colorado.

Josh's full bio is available [here](#)

**Lindsey Knapton, Associate**

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Colorado Attorney General's Office | Before joining Shook, Lindsey served as an Assistant Attorney General at the Colorado Department of Law. She represented state agencies in administrative and judicial proceedings, advised state agencies on cybersecurity and privacy matters, and represented Colorado in numerous data privacy multi-state investigations. At the Colorado AG's Office, Lindsey also coordinated investigations of potential violations of Colorado's cybersecurity and data breach notification laws.

Lindsey's full bio is available [here](#).

**Michelle S. Lee, Associate**

San Francisco | 415.544.1950 | mslee@shb.com

U.S. Department of Justice | A former trial attorney at the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) Antitrust Division, Michelle has a background in government investigations. Her experience includes prosecuting criminal cartels involving price-fixing, bid-rigging, and market allocation, as well as civil anti-competitive and monopolistic practices in violation of the Sherman Act. At the DOJ, Michelle also investigated procurement violations and fraudulent conduct under the Procurement Collusion Strike Force initiative.

Michelle's full bio is available [here](#).

GOVERNMENT INVESTIGATIONS & LITIGATION**Tristan Duncan, Co-Chair, Class Action & Appellate**

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Appellate | Tristan has significant experience handling federal and state governmental investigations and administrative proceedings. She also focuses her practice on constitutional, class action and energy law. In that capacity, she prosecutes and defends challenges to state and federal legislation, leading the firm's constitutional law efforts and the firm's comprehensive national and international energy-related litigation in product liability, environmental and toxic tort, antitrust, consumer fraud, and commercial disputes. Tristan also advises international and national energy companies on climate change matters at the federal and state levels and is lead counsel in climate change litigation pending in federal and state courts.

Tristan's full bio is available [here](#).

**Eric Hobbs, Partner**

Denver & Kansas City | 303.285.5325 | ehobbs@shb.com

Unfair and Deceptive Trade Practices + Complex Governmental Investigations | Eric's practice focuses on high-stakes litigation and trials throughout the United States. He has particular expertise with claims asserted under state unfair and deceptive trade practice acts, as well as corresponding federal statutes such as the FTC Act and the Lanham Act. Having both defended and prosecuted these claims in venues throughout the country, including at trial, Eric is adept at crafting compelling narratives and developing extensive evidentiary records in a wide variety of cases. Prior to joining Shook, Eric clerked with the United States Attorney's Office for the District of Colorado, the Missouri Attorney General's Office – Consumer Protection Division, and the Denver District Attorney's office.

Eric's full bio is available [here](#).



Colman McCarthy, *Director of Incident Response Task Force*

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Cybersecurity and Incident Response | Colman leads Shook's incident-response practice, overseeing a team of attorneys that assist clients when they face the intensely difficult situation of a cyberattack. He guides clients through the entire process, advising along the way on a host of legal issues related to messaging, notifications, regulatory submissions, threat-actor communications, and other obligations under applicable privacy and cybersecurity laws. Colman's experience spans a broad spectrum of industries, including healthcare, manufacturing, financial, insurance, educational, retail, energy, and tech. And as part of that practice, he has significant experience responding to regulatory inquiries into data-security incidents from state attorneys general and insurance departments, the Health and Human Services Office for Civil Rights, New York Department of Financial Services, and others.

Colman's full bio is available [here](#).



Daniel Rogers, *Managing Partner-Miami*

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Complex Disputes & Appeals | Dan's practice runs the gamut of civil litigation, with a focus on matters involving complex legal issues. A Board Certified Specialist in Appellate Practice since 2013, Dan has briefed or presented oral argument in more than 100 appeals across the country, including appellate victories on significant issues of first impression and the use of creative, precedent-setting appellate strategies. Dan also regularly defends manufacturers and retailers in putative class actions and corresponding investigations by Attorneys General around the country. He has also handled substantial litigation with and against governmental agencies. Clients rely on Dan for his deep knowledge of the law, his crisp and persuasive legal writing, and his practical advice that allows them to ebillffectively and efficiently navigate some of their thorniest legal disputes.

Dan's full bio is available [here](#).



Thomas Sullivan, *Managing Partner-Boston*

Boston & Philadelphia | 215.575.3130 | tsullivan@shb.com

Commercial Disputes | Tom's litigation practice focuses on high-profile, complex commercial litigation and tort litigation, including class actions, multi-district litigation, and other aggregate litigation throughout the United States. He has represented companies in matters involving complex financial issues, construction and building materials, automobiles, pharmaceuticals, third-party payors, ERISA, RICO, supply and distribution issues, food and beverage labeling, and various consumer products and contracts. Many of these matters have been litigated against the backdrop of criminal and/or regulatory enforcement efforts.

Tom's full bio is available [here](#).

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